

# Urban Core Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

## August 3, 2020 Meeting Summary

Ed Ball Building, 214 W. Adams St.

### Meeting Attendance

**CPAC Members:** Kim Pryor, Chair; Glen VanVorst, Vice Chair; Brenda Boydston, Fresh Ministries; Becca Dingler, 2nd Mile Ministries; Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts; Bill Hoff, SPAR Council; Tia Keitt, Eastside CDC; Greg Radlinski, Parks at the Cathedral Juanita Senior, Planet Watch Neighborhood; John Shermetaro, SAMBA

**Excused:** Cindy Watson, JASMYN

**Visitors:** Richard Lewis, The Plaza; Michael Ortiz

**Staff and Elected Officials:** Darryl Willie, Duval County Public School Board Member, District 4; Dana Kriznar, Duval County Public Schools, Bradley Clayton, Municipal Code Compliance; Berdell Knowles, JEA; Connor Corrigan, Planning & Development Department; Michael Pickney, Public Works, Solid Waste; Thomas Register, Municipal Code Compliance, Lisa Ransom, Neighborhood Services; Rosemary Wesolowski, Neighborhood Services

### Meeting Summary

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** CPAC Chair Kim Pryor called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. Staff confirmed a quorum.
2. **Approval of Previous Meeting's Summary:** Glen VanVorst motioned to approve the March 2020 CPAC meeting summary, Juanita Senior seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Presentation: (No presentation)**
4. **Elected Official's Report:** Darryl Willie, Duval County School Board, District 4, announced that he has been busy preparing for the upcoming school year. Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) will start the new school year on August 20, 2020; a couple weeks later due to the pandemic. Board member Willie stated that everyone at Duval County Schools is monitoring the pandemic closely and working to ensure the health of everyone. DCPS will offer online classes and in school classes. DCPS is currently working with Comcast to better assist student that do not have access to Wi-Fi. DCPS has free hotspots that they can provide to students if you need them. Please contact DCPS as soon as possible if you need assistance with technology.
5. **Old Business – none**
6. **New Business - none**
7. **Subcommittees:**
  - **Homelessness:** Cindy Watson - not in attendance, no report.
  - **Code Enforcement and Blight:** Glen Van Vorst stated that he would like to resume activity with the subcommittee and set up a meeting with the Blight Director, Denise Lee,

Neighborhood Department Director, Bryan Mosier, and Chief of Municipal Code Compliance Michael Chao. The goal of this meeting would be to get some clarity on municipal code(s) and where the community can go to educate themselves on local municipal code.

- **North Florida TPO:** Celia Miller –not in attendance, no report
- **Governmental Affairs:** Tia Keitt informed the CPAC that the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee had six Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) applications to review. The subcommittee reviewed two of the applications. City of Jacksonville Planner, Connor Corrigan presented the four remaining applications to the full CPAC and Subcommittee Chair Keitt presented the two applications discussed by the subcommittee.
- **E-20-44** at 2122 Myrtle Avenue is seeking to increase the allowable residency from six individuals to ten at a community residential home and the and the companion application **V-20-06** to reduce distance to RLD Zoning from 500 feet to 0 feet. There was significant discussion, but no action or position motion was made.
- **2020-0335** at 719 Union Street conventional rezoning from RMD-A to IL (Industrial Light). The business (Azar Sausage Company) at the current location has been in operation for many years and has submitted the rezoning to bring the business into compliance. The CPAC made a motion to approve the application; the motion was approved.
- **2020-0333** at 1541 Riverside Ave to rezone 1.26 acres from CRO to PUD in order to allow mix use development. The application was approved by the Planning and Development Department with conditions. It was confirmed that the plans that were submitted are still conceptual and the CPAC inquired if Riverside Avondale Preservation (RAP) has made any recommendations. After additional discussion the CPAC did not take a position or make a motion.
- **WLD-20-11** at 678 A. Phillip Randolph seeks to reduce the minimum distance from a church or a school from 500 feet to 464.63 feet. There was a significant discussion to impact this type of business would have on the community. Ms. Keitt made a motion and after some discussion withdrew the motion. No action or motion was taken.
- **WLD-20-12** at 2625 Main Street seeks to reduce the minimum distance from a church or a school from 500 feet to 404 feet. After some discussion, no action or motion was made.

## 8. Staff Reports

- **Dr. Dana Kriznar**, Duval County Public Schools announced that the DCPS 2020-21 school year will begin on August 20, 2020. The teachers will return to school on August 12, 2020. There are four school board seats up for election this year; please get out and vote. DCPS has also started the process of re-naming of a number of local schools. The schools are: Stonewall Jackson Elementary; Joseph Finegan Elementary; Andrew Jackson High School; Robert E. Lee High School; Kirby Smith Middle School; J.E.B. Stuart Middle School and Jefferson Davis Middle School. The re-naming process will be similar to the renaming of

Westside High School. There was some discussion in regard to the expense of changing the names.

At this time 30 % of the student will attend school virtually and 70% will attend in a brick and mortar school. The teachers have applied to teach virtually and the default is to teach brick and mortar.

- **JEA:** Berdell Knowles, Government Affairs Specialist, acknowledged hurricane season is upon us. JEA will follow the Restoration 1-2-3 process if we are impacted by a storm. JEA has been impacted by Covid-19. JEA did suspended disconnections of electric and water service in March, when Florida officials declared a state of emergency. Now JEA has restored normal policies, including utility disconnections. To help as many customers as possible maintain their utility services they are offering flexible payment options that allow you to pay outstanding balances over a longer time. If you have a past-due bill, you are encouraged to call 904-665-6000 to avoid disconnection.
- **Public Works:** Michael Pinckney (904-255-7500) stated that Public Works and Solid Waste has been out working through the pandemic. All the trash trucks are out working and trying to keep up with the increased amount of waste that is on the curb weekly. They are working as hard as possible to get all the trash collected.
- **Municipal Code Compliance:** Bradley Clayton stated that they have split some of their team to serve on the Mayor's Task Force to monitor restaurants and bars to ensure social distancing is enforced. There was some discussion on the area(s) of town that highest amount of service requests from Code Compliance and the amount of blight and nuisance tickets that are generated. It was questioned the effectiveness of this process. It was stated that process gets the properties cleaned up for at least for the short term. The status of the Berkman II was discussed and it was determined that the Berkman II property was sent to the **Municipal Code Enforcement Board (MCEB)** for the damaged fence that surrounds the property last week. Municipal Code Compliance has a contractor in place to clean up the trash around the property. Mr. Clayton was unsure of the exact status of the unsafe structure concern. There was additional questions/discussion as to why the Berkman II has not been demolished when Code Compliance can bring other structures quickly. It was requested to get a copy of the steps required to get a building torn down.
- **Neighborhood Services Office:** Rosemary Wesolowski stated that it was good to see some familiar faces and looks forward to working with the Urban Core CPAC.
- **Neighborhood Services Office:** Lisa Ransom, Manager thanked everyone for attending and stated that she was working on a project that will be discussed in the future.

## 9. Urban Core Issue Tracking Follow-up

Prior to the extended break it was reported that the eastbound exit ramp from the northbound lanes of Interstate-95 onto the Martin Luther King Jr. Expressway has a bad dip in the pavement. Rosemary Wesolowski will follow up with FDOT on the status of the repair.

New issues to add to the Issue Tracking Form:

2.4 Berkman II – will remain on the list

8.1 Request to Bradley Clayton for the steps to bring down an unsafe structure

8.2 The policies/criteria for items going MCEB

## **10. Public Comments**

- Bill Hoff stated he would like to participate on the LUZ Subcommittee.
- Tia Keitt stated she would like to join the Blight Subcommittee.

**11. Adjourn:** There was a motion to adjourn and a second and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

The next Urban Core CPAC Meeting is Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

A copy of the audio recording of this Urban Core CPAC meeting is available through a Public Information Request by calling 630-CITY. Details about Public Records can be found on the City's Website: [Public Records](#).